

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 11942 202342Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----006932 202350Z /66

O R 201504Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9955
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11942

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y MISSING ADDRESSEE (TRIPOLI) ADDED

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG ONLY
DEPARTMENT FOR AF FOR MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS CD US GW
SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REFS: (A) STATE 167607; (B) BONN 9880;
(C) STATE 166492

BEGIN SUMMARY. BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER AND
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PAGE 02 BONN 11942 202342Z

STATE SECRETARY HERMES ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE IDEA OF
ASSISTING CHAD, ALTHOUGH THE FRG IS UNABLE TO HELP WITH
MILITARY AID. WE WILL BE FOLLOWING UP WITH THE
FOREIGN OFFICE TO OBTAIN MORE SPECIFIC GERMAN IDEAS ON
HOW THE PROVISION OF AID MIGHT BE COORDINATED.
END SUMMARY.

1. AT LUNCHEON WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ON JULY 19, AMBASSADOR YOUNG RAISED THE QUESTION OF ASSISTANCE TO CHAD. HE WENT OVER THE POINTS IN REFTEL (A) AND LEFT WITH GENSCHER A NON-PAPER SUMMARIZING THEM.

2. GENSCHER INDICATED FAMILIARITY WITH THE SITUATION IN CHAD AND EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN ABOUT LIBYAN ACTIONS, NOT ONLY IN AFRICA BUT ALSO IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE COMMENTED THAT THE LIBYANS WERE BEHIND A NUMBER OF ADVERSE ACTIONS IN AFRICA AND THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR THE WEST TO TRY TO BRING A STOP TO THIS. IN HIS VIEW, THE LIBYANS SEEMED TO FAVOR ESTABLISHING A ZONE OF SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA. GENSCHER ALSO STRONGLY AGREED WITH AN OBSERVATION BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG CONCERNING QADHAFI'S PROMOTION OF TERRORISM IN THE THIRD WORLD. HE RECALLED THAT LIBYA HAD BEEN ONE OF THE STRONGEST OPPONENTS IN THE UN OF THE FRG DRAFT RESOLUTION AGAINST TAKING OF HOSTAGES.

3. THE FOREIGN MINISTER MADE NO SPECIFIC COMMENT ABOUT THE REQUEST FROM CHAD FOR ASSISTANCE. HE RECALLED THAT THE FRG HAD GIVEN SUPPORT TO MOBUTU, NOT BECAUSE IT LIKED MOBUTU ESPECIALLY BUT BECAUSE IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY IN AFRICA. HE AGREED TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BONN 11942 202342Z

THE US PROPOSAL AND GIVE US A REACTION.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND AMBASSADOR STOESEL ALSO BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION IN THE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MEETING WITH STATE SECRETARY HERMES (WHO WAS NOT AT THE GENSCHER LUNCHEON). HERMES' IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO OUR STATEMENT THAT CHAD HAD ASKED THE US TO PROVIDE AID WAS, "PLEASE DO IT." HE ADDED THAT THE FRG WAS BOUND BY LAW NOT TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE BUT THAT IT COULD GIVE ECONOMIC AID AND WOULD DO SO.

5. WE WILL BE FOLLOWING UP WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE TO SEEK GERMAN VIEWS ON COORDINATING ASSISTANCE EFFORTS. STOESEL

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